



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

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March 13, 2014

Dear Colleague,

Maryland has seen another year of accomplishments in CRC screening. With your help, Maryland public health programs funded by the Cigarette Restitution Fund (CRF) screened 25,300 low-income and uninsured or under-insured clients using any screening method with 24,098 screening colonoscopies performed since 2001; 53% of the CRF clients were minorities and 33% were men. The continued CRC screening of the medically underserved in Maryland would not be possible without your commitment, dedication, and hard work.

Maryland is **evaluating quality of colonoscopy** again this year by examining the percent of colonoscopies with adequate bowel prep, ability to reach the cecum, biopsy rates, and neoplasia detection rates for endoscopists who provide services in our program. In accordance with your most recent contracts, your local health department is providing you with **reports** on the colonoscopies you have performed in the CRF Program over *two periods of time*, 7/1/2006-12/31/2010 and 1/1/2011-12/31/2013. This information will be especially valuable to those of you who have performed many colonoscopies in the CRF Program because the measures will be more representative of your greater practice. Your individual reports will enable you to compare your quality measures to the quality measures from providers in Maryland who have performed at least 30 colonoscopies in the program and to national biopsy rate and neoplasia detection rate ranges. The report has been updated to capture the percent of colonoscopies with missing adenoma size and includes and further defines adenomas and sessile serrated polyps.

We hope you find this information interesting and helpful. Many thanks again for your role in Maryland's success. Should you need assistance, please contact your local health department program.

Sincerely,

Stanley Watkins, M.D.

Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee